

2019 National Threat Assessment Conference for Educational Institutions

November 4–6, 2019 *Richmond, Virginia*







COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Ralph S. Northam Governor

November 4, 2019

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the **2019 National Threat Assessment Conference for Educational Institutions** in the heart of the Commonwealth's Capital City. The Virginia Departments of Criminal Justice Services and Education, the Maryland Center for School Safety, the U.S. Department of Education, and many co-sponsors, are pleased to share nationally recognized subject matter experts in the field of threat assessment.

The Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety ("Center") has more than a decade of experience implementing and supporting threat assessment teams in institutions of higher education and K-12 public schools. Collaborating with state and local partners, the Center has researched and identified best practices for the successful integration of threat assessment teams. This interdisciplinary and multi-level collaboration is a result of strong relationships, dedicated communication, the sharing of resources, and critical analysis, which have collectively resulted in better safety outcomes for all students and staff.

We are eager to share what we learned over the next three days, including strategies on establishing behavioral threat assessment legislation, developing a framework for our model policies, and implementing threat assessment in schools and campuses. We will also highlight lessons learned from tragedies in Connecticut, Florida, and Virginia that involved targeted violence, as well as insights from averted threats, including the importance of information sharing between the community and educators.

We hope you will use this opportunity to network with your colleagues and discuss best practices that are working in your communities. Thank you for your commitment to the safety of our students and faculty in Virginia and throughout the nation.

Sincerely

Ralph S. Northam



STATE OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dear Conference Participant,

On behalf of the State of Maryland and the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS), we are honored to partner with the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services' Center for School and Campus Safety for this year's National Threat Assessment Conference for Educational Institutions.

There is no more important job than keeping our citizens safe, especially our children. In April 2018, I was proud to enact the Maryland Safe to Learn Act, which broadened the responsibilities of MCSS and put a number of critical school safety measures into place. Among these initiatives is a statewide policy establishing behavioral threat assessment teams in every local school system across the State of Maryland.

Our administration shares the mission of MCSS, and continues to work hard every day to make our school communities safer. We must remain ever vigilant when it comes to protecting our children, and that depends on daily collaboration, communication, and cooperation.

We sincerely thank you for your leadership, and for all you do to keep our children and our schools safe.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan

AGENDA

DAY ONE — GREATER RICHMOND CONVENTION CENTER NOVEMBER 4, 2019

7:30 AM-8:00 AM	Coffee, Registration, and Participant Check-in	GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, LEVEL 2
8:00 AM- 8:30 AM	Presentation of Colors Richmond Police Department Honor Guard	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
	National Anthem Paula Green, Communication Officer/Dispatcher, Reynolds Community College	
	Welcome and Introductions	
	The Honorable Brian Moran, Virginia Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security	
	The Honorable Ralph Northam, Governor of Virginia	
	Shannon Dion, Director, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services	
	Kate Hession, Director, Maryland Center for School Safety	
8:30 AM-9:30 AM	Enhancing Prevention through Lessons Learned from Research and Operational Experience – Threat Assessment and Management for Educational Institutions	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
	John Wyman, Unit Chief, BAU, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	
	The FBI's Behavioral Threat Assessment Center (BTAC), works in partnership with state, local, school and campus safety stakeholders to support the assessment and management of persons of concern and potential violent attackers. Chief Wyman will provide an overview of the major research findings that form the foundation of the behavioral threat assessment and threat management model. Focusing on completed and thwarted attacks, this presentation will highlight the top takeaway priorities of threat assessment for school and campus officials.	
9:30 AM-9:45 AM	BREAK	
9:45 AM-10:45 AM	Overview of Attacks in Educational Settings: Implications for Best Practices in School Threat Assessment Lina Alathari, Chief, National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC)	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
	The presentation will offer an overview of targeted violence impacting educational settings by discussing the recently released U.S. Secret Service study examining attacks at K-12 schools from 2008–2017. The presentation will also discuss current best practices in threat assessment and targeted violence prevention plans.	
10:45 AM-11:00 AM	BREAK	
11:00 ам-12:00 рм	Violence in Schools and Social Media Leakage: What it Looks Like and Where to Find it	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
	Nick Chernoff, Lead Trainer, Safer Schools Together (SST)	
	Mr. Chernoff will provide a review of actual social media leakage from a number of select school and mass shootings as well as averted attacks over the last decade. This will allow us to know exactly where these pre-incident warning signs exist and how we can find them. The risk factors we have seen publicly displayed online by an individual on a pathway to engage in serious violence are the same risk factors exhibited by those who are being radicalized towards terrorism and those planning to shoot up a school. There are several youth culture phenomenons that will be discussed that are both enhancing the lives of young people with access to unlimited information like never before and consequently also creating conflict, breeding online hate, lowering levels of empathy, and severely impacting mental health. This session will cover the current state of affairs in social media through the context of popular, niche, and underground/deep web platforms.	
12:00 РМ-1:00 РМ	LUNCH PROVIDED	EXHIBIT HALL C, LEVEL 1

DAY ONE — GREATER RICHMOND CONVENTION CENTER NOVEMBER 4, 2019

Donna Michaelis, Division Director, Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety, Department of Criminal Justice Services Kate Hession, Executive Director, Maryland Center for School Safety Virginia was the first state in the nation with mandates for threat assessment teams and protocols at the K-12 and higher education levels, and Maryland passed similar mandates shortly thereafter. Hear the whys, lessons learned, pitfalls and processes as well as each state's future plans. 2:00 PM-2:15 PM BREAK 2:15 PM-3:15 PM The National Averted School Violence (ASV) Database and Lessons Learned from an Averted Threat Jeff Allison, Special Adviser, International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) Brooke Olsen-Farrell, Superintendent, Slate Valley Unified School District Jason Rasco, Fair Haven High School Principal, Slate Valley Unified School District This presentation will serve as an overview of the National Averted School Violence (ASV) database. It will include lessons learned from case studies and guidance on how to submit reports to and access reports in the database. Participants will become familiar with the history and purpose of the ASV database, understand how to submit near miss reports to and access reports in the database. In addition, this presentation will review lessons learned from a near miss case in the K-12 education sector. 3:15 PM-3:30 PM BREAK Prevention and Preparation: Lessons Learned from Two National Tragedies Michele Gay, Founder, Safe and Sound Schools Kristina Anderson, Founder, Koshka Foundation for Safe Schools The school tragedies that occurred on the campuses of Virginia Tech and Sandy Hook Elementary have ignited local and national discussions of how we can better plan, to respond and recover from mass trauma. These tragedies, along with numerous others, have also catalyzed the development and support of the threat assessment and management process within K-12 and higher education. Through the unique lens of two survivors and safety advocates, Kristina A			
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5:00 PM DAY ONE CONCLUDES	5:00 PM	DAY ONE CONCLUDES	

AGENDA

DAY TWO — GREATER RICHMOND CONVENTION CENTER NOVEMBER 5, 2019

7:30 AM-8:00 AM	Coffee, Registration, and Participant Check-in	GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, LEVEL 2
8:00 am-8:30 am	Address by the Secretary of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction The Honorable Atif Qarni, Virginia Secretary of Education Dr. James Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Virginia Department of Education	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
8:30 AM-12:00 PM GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2	The Shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School: An Overview of the Findings of the MSD Public Safety Commission Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Florida Sheriff's Office	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
	Established by the Florida Legislature to analyze the shooting at MSDHS and other mass-casualty incidents, the MSDPSC recommends improvements in law enforcement, mental health, and school safety. The MSDPSC produced a 500 page initial report analyzing the law enforcement response to the shooting, the shooter's prior contact with law enforcement and mental health providers, and various school safety issues. The report included recommendations to improve each of these fields. Sheriff Gualtieri will provide an overview which will summarize the investigative findings and MSDPSC recommendations for improving the various systemic failures. Topics discussed will include background of K-12 active-assailant incidents, an overview of the MSDHS shooter and the shooting itself, 911 and radio communications, as well as law enforcement and emergency medical response to the shooting and school safety issues.	
12:00 PM-1:00 PM	LUNCH PROVIDED	EXHIBIT HALL C, LEVEL 1
1:00 рм-2:15 рм	Threat Assessment and the Law: Importance of Information Sharing Between K-12, Higher Ed, and the Community Dr. John More, CEO, Response Law, LLC Barry Meek, Associate University Counsel and Senior Assistant Attorney General, University of Virginia During this presentation Dr. More and Mr. Meek will focus on the legal limitations that currently exist for sharing student information under FERPA, HIPAA, and corresponding Virginia law, along with a primer on the legal authority for conducting threat assessments	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
2:15 PM-2:30 PM	at both the K-12 and higher education levels. BREAK	
2:30 PM-3:15 PM	Interrupting the Pathway to Violence: Building Comprehensive Strategies to Intervene Early and Prevent Tragedies Susan Payne, Research Associate, School Safety and Prevention Expert, Founder Safe2Tell, a Model Prevention Initiative, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, University of Colorado	GRAND BALLROOM ABC, LEVEL 2
	We will look at where we've been in the 20 years since Columbine, where we are now, and where we go moving forward, including exploration of the challenges of bridging research into best practice solutions and integrating effective strategies into building a comprehensive school safety framework with a multi-discipline approach to protecting our students and our schools. The presenter will illustrate how a focused effort on early intervention and prevention utilizing risk and threat management, along with examination of social media can create a pathway to success and support for students identified as a concern to their own safety or the safety of others. An overview of the challenges of building operational frameworks that include threat management considerations for schools and communities will also be provided.	

DAY TWO — GREATER RICHMOND CONVENTION CENTER NOVEMBER 5, 2019

3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Your Threat Assessment Questions Answered!	GRAND BALLROOM
	Dr. Gene Deisinger , <i>President</i> , <i>Deisinger Consulting</i> , <i>LLC</i>	ABC, LEVEL 2
	Jeffrey J. Nolan, Esq. Senior Consultant, Sigma Threat Management	
	Susan Payne , Research Associate, School Safety and Prevention Expert, Founder Safe2Tell, a Model Prevention Initiative, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, University of Colorado	
	Dorian Van Horn, <i>President, DC Chapter of the Association for Threat Assessment Professionals (DC-ATAP)</i>	
	John Wyman, Unit Chief, BAU, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	
	This question and answer panel discussion will provide audience members an opportunity to hear firsthand best practices related to research, policy, and practice; elements of effective threat assessment and management processes; why a multi-disciplinary approach is necessary; responding to low and moderate threats; balancing safety and mental health concerns; use of electronic devices to manage threats and responses; and the integration of threats to self and threats to others.	
5:00 PM	DAY TWO CONCLUDES	

AGENDA

DAY THREE — RICHMOND MARRIOTT NOVEMBER 6, 2019

7:30 AM-8:00 AM	Coffee, Registration, and Participant Check-in	GRAND BALLROOM FOYER, LEVEL 2
8:00 AM-9:30 AM	Community-Based, Multi-Disciplinary Threat Assessment Teams: Building Partnerships to Expand the Net	GRAND BALLROOM
	Dr. Gene Deisinger, President, Deisinger Consulting, LLC	
	David Okada, Principal, Safety and Threat Solutions	
	Many schools and campuses have implemented threat assessment teams but are challenged by cases involving former students or staff, or other community members, who pose a threat from outside the educational setting. This session will provide an overview of considerations in developing and implementing regional/community-based threat assessment and management processes. Presenters will discuss issues regarding structure, membership, operating principles and integrated case management strategies to support the safety and well-being of our communities.	
9:30 AM-9:45 AM	BREAK	
9:45 AM-12:00 PM	The Anatomy of a Mass Homicide Prosecution George Brauchler, District Attorney, Colorado's Eighteenth Judicial District	GRAND BALLROOM
	On July 20, 2012, after 2½ months of secret planning and seemingly missed opportunities to intervene and prevent tragedy, a PhD neuroscience student walked into a movie theater in suburban Aurora, Colorado (3rd largest city in Colorado) and attempted to murder hundreds of unsuspecting The Dark Knight Rises movie-goers using tear gas, a shotgun, and AR-15 style rifle, two handguns, and 700 rounds of ammunition. He murdered 12 and injured 70 others before being apprehended by law enforcement. The mass murderer entered a plea of Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity, and the case proceeded to trial. This presentation provides an in-depth look at the proceedings and outcome of the trial.	
12:00 PM	CONFERENCE CONCLUDES	

OVERVIEW OF THE DCJS VIRGINIA CENTER FOR SCHOOL AND CAMPUS SAFETY

Created in 2000, the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS), housed within the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), focuses on improving and enhancing safety by addressing topics which affect Virginia law enforcement, schools, and institutions of higher education. The VCSCS is a resource and training center for information and research about national and statewide safety efforts and initiatives in K-12 schools and institutions of higher education.

Through *Virginia Code* § 9.1-184, the VCSCS is mandated to:

- Provide training for stakeholders,
- Develop, review, and disseminate resources and legislation,
- Facilitate the annual school safety audit,
- Provide technical assistance, and
- Develop partnerships to promote school and campus safety in Virginia.

The VCSCS strives to achieve all of these mandates and to be a one-stop service center to K-12 schools, institutions of higher learning, and law enforcement agencies.

TRAINING

VCSCS offers training on relevant topics to promote school and campus safety. Some of these trainings include:

- K-12 Threat Assessment Training
- **Campus Threat Assessment Training**
- School Resource Officer and School Administrator Training: Building a Team to Support Students and Ensure School Safety
- School and Campus Security Officer Certification Training

CONFERENCES

VCSCS holds timely and annual conferences for our constituents, bringing nationally acclaimed subject matter experts to the Commonwealth to share the latest information and providing valuable networking opportunities.

- Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Forum
- Impact of Trauma on Law Enforcement Officers Conference
- School Safety Training Forum
- National Threat Assessment Conference
- Strengthening Connections School Climate Forum
- The Briefings: A National School and Campus Safety Symposium

RESOURCES

VCSCS provides resources and publications that enhance the safety of schools and institutions of higher education.

- School Safety Inspection Checklist
- Critical Incident Response for School Faculty and Staff and Video
- School Crisis, Emergency Management and Medical Emergency Response Plan
- Virginia Educator's Drill Guide
- Virginia Schools Bus Driver and Monitor Safety and Security Manual and Video
- School-Law Enforcement Partnership Guide and Model Memorandum of Understanding
- Threat Assessment in Virginia Public Schools: Model Policies, Procedures and Guidelines
- K-12 Threat Assessment in Virginia: A Prevention Overview for School Staff, Parents, and Community Members and Video
- and others available at www.dcjs.virginia.gov/about-dcjs/ publication-directory.

FEATURED EVENTS

Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Forum

March 9-12, 2020 • Hampton, Virginia

The forum brings together experts in the field of violence prevention, campus sexual assault, the Clery Act, Title IX, threat assessment, intimate partner violence, stalking, and mental health to discuss the latest research, policies, legal challenges, interdisciplinary cooperation, and reporting issues. Structured to encourage a cross-disciplinary approach to these complex campus and community public health issues, attendees have significant opportunities to share expertise and resources with colleagues from across the country.

The Briefings: A National School and Campus **Safety Symposium**

Spring 2020 • Northern Virginia

This event will brings together local educators, law enforcement, and other school safety stakeholders to hear compelling field-tested and expert methods for advancing school safety protocols and police response from individuals who have responded to and experienced school violence first-hand. This symposium highlights the importance of communication, leadership, training and preparation, as well as the steps necessary to create preventative solutions, and guidance on creating immediate recovery plans.

20th Anniversary of the **Virginia School Safety Training Forum**

July 28-30, 2020 • Hampton, Virginia

The Virginia School Safety Training Forum features engaging keynote speakers and useful workshops for as many as 1,000 participants in the fields of law enforcement, school security, PreK-12 administration and counseling, and others with an interest in school safety. Participants hear from local, state, and national experts on a multitude of topics related to school safety including youth drug abuse trends and prevention, mental health and wellness, legal issues that impact schools, developing a positive school climate, and emergency planning.

To be notified when registration opens for these events, subscribe to DCJS Updates at: www.dcjs.virginia.gov/subscribe





The DCJS Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of this event.

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Please note: Photos or videos from this event may appear on the DCJS website, social media sites, and in other agency materials.

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NOTES

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES — VIRGINIA CENTER FOR SCHOOL AND CAMPUS SAFETY

TRAINING SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Trainings are limited to target audiences and offered at no charge unless otherwise noted. Pre-registration is required to ensure space.

NOTE: All trainings held in Virginia

November 11, 2019	K-12 Threat Assessment: One-Day Course	Halifax County High School, South Boston
November 12, 2019	Basic Gang Awareness for Law Enforcement Officers	Rappahannock Regional Jail, Stafford
November 15, 2019	21st Century Smoke: We Can't Suspend Our Way Out of It (Half Day – Morning Session)	John Tyler Community College, Midlothian
November 15, 2019	Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention (Half Day – Afternoon Session)	John Tyler Community College, Midlothian
November 18, 2019	K-12 Threat Assessment: One-Day Course	Russell County Public Schools, Lebanon
November 21-22, 2019	Campus Threat Assessment Team Training	University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg
December 6, 2019	K-12 Threat Assessment: One-Day Course	Blue Ridge Community College, Weyers Cave
December 10, 2019	K-12 Threat Assessment: One-Day Course	Eanes-Pittman Public Safety Training Center, Chesterfield
January 22, 2020	School Safety Audit Webinar	Online
March 9-12, 2020	2020 Campus Safety and Violence Prevention Forum	Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton
April 20-24, 2020	School Resource Officer and School Administrator Basic Course	Central Shenandoah Criminal Justice Academy, Weyers Cave
June 1-5, 2020	School Resource Officer and School Administrator Basic Course	Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, Abingdon
June 15-19, 2020	School Resource Officer and School Administrator Basic Course	Eanes-Pittman Public Safety Training Center, Chesterfield
June 22-26, 2020	School Resource Officer and School Administrator Basic Course	Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy, Ashburn
July 13-17, 2020	School Resource Officer and School Administrator Basic Course	Roanoke City Police Academy, Roanoke
July 28-30, 2020	2020 School Safety Training Forum	Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton
September 28– October 2, 2020	School Resource Officer and School Administrator Basic Course	Skyline Criminal Justice Academy, Middletown

A comprehensive list of all DCJS Training, Events, and Conferences may be found at www.dcjs.virginia.gov/training-events

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